Law Firm of father and daughter in Manchester is believed to be the first in New Hampshire's long legal history. Atty. Joseph J. Betley, veteran member of the bar, discusses a case with his daughter, Atty. Constance J. Betley successfully passed the N. H. Bar examination earlier this year.

Queen City Father, Daughter Join In Forming Law Partnership

By J. LEO DERY

What is believed to be the first father and daughter law firm in New Hampshire's long legal history has been formed in Manchester.

Announcement has been made that Atty. Joseph J. Betley, veteran member of the New Hampshire Bar and for the past 20 years referee in bankruptcy for New Hampshire, has associated himself with his daughter, Miss Constance J. Betley.

While father and son law firms are common not only in New Hampshire but elsewhere as well, this is believed the first time in the Granite State that a father and daughter have formed a law partnership.

Son May Join Later

There is a possibility that a son may be added to the firm a few years from now. Joseph J. Betley Jr., who will graduate from St. Michael College next June, has informed his father that he is thinking of going to law school next fall.

The elder Betley is a native of Manchester. He graduated from Central High in 1929 and received his law degree from Catholic University in 1934. While in law school he was a policeman for the U. S. Senate.

Following his graduation from CU, he passed the District of Columbia Bar and went to work for the alcohol tax unit ("the Untouchables)" of the U. S. Treasury Department, working for this agency until 1936 when he passed the New Hampshire Bar.

He started law practice with the late John S. Hurley. In the following year he became a partner in the firm of Saidel, Lemelin, Hurley & Betley. The firm was dissolved when Attorney Lemelin became a Probate Court judge and Mr. Hurley died. This was in 1942 when the firm name was changed to Saidel and Betley which continued until Mr. Saidel's death in 1958. Since then he has practiced law alone. He became referee in bankruptcy in 1945 and still continues in that position.

Miss Betley was one of five girls in a class of 160 who received their law degree at the Boston College School of Law last June. She took the New Hampshire Bar examination and passed the test successfully. She was admitted to the Bar in July and has been practising in her father's office since.

From now on it will be the firm of Betley and Betley, father and daughter.

SACRED HEART NURSES Alumnae Association held its annual reunion banquet at Aurore's Banquet Hall. The affair attracted more than 160 graduates of the Sacred Heart Hospital School of Nursing from all over New England and New York. Head table leaders are pictured above discussing the program. Seated (left to right) Miss Ruth Slattery, R.N., chairman of the banquet and president of the alumnae; Gov. John King, guest of honor, and Miss Sue Hartnett, vice president and co-chairman. Standing (left to right) are Dr. F. Richard Maher, president of the staff at Sacred Heart Hospital, who served as toastmaster; Mrs. Maher, and Rev. Frederic Kaznocha, pastor of St. Hedwig parish. (Staff Photo)